Who can participate in the Schools and Libraries Cybersecurity Pilot Program?

- Schools, libraries, and consortia of schools and libraries that meet the E-Rate program's eligibility requirements may apply to participate in the Pilot Program.
- Applicants need not be a current E-Rate participant to be eligible to participate.

What services and equipment are eligible for support?

Funding is available for the purchase of a wide variety of cybersecurity services and equipment used to protect the networks and data of eligible schools, libraries, or consortia during the three-year Pilot Program term, including:

- Advanced/Next-Generation Firewalls;
- Endpoint Protection;
- Identity Protection and Authentication; and
- Monitoring, Detection, and Response.

Additional information regarding the services and equipment eligible for support can be found in the Pilot Eligible Services List.

What steps does an applicant need to take to apply?

Interested schools, libraries, and consortia of schools and libraries can apply to participate in the Pilot Program through a two-part application process. In Part One of the Schools and Libraries Cybersecurity Pilot Program Application (FCC Form 484), applicants will be required to provide general information about the school(s) and/or library(ies) seeking support. If selected to participate in the Pilot Program, more detailed information about a participant's cybersecurity experiences will be required in Part Two.

Prospective applicants can take steps now to prepare for the opening of the application window by completing pre-application requirements and compiling the information needed to submit Part One of the FCC Form 484 application.

Stay Informed

- Review the Pilot Program Order and check out the FCC's and USAC's Cyber Pilot websites.
- Sign up to receive additional information from USAC.

Have questions? Need help?

- Contact USAC's Customer Support Center at (800) 203-8100 (Monday – Friday, 8 AM to 8 PM Eastern).

Steps to Complete the Application Process

1. Get ready by completing pre-application steps:

   - Obtain or locate your FCC Registration number (FRN).
   - Obtain a Billed Entity Number (BEN) and create a user profile in the E-Rate Productivity Center (EPC).
   - Obtain your SAM.gov generated Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) number.
     - **If you are already registered in SAM.gov,** you have a UEI. To find your UEI, log into SAM.gov and select the "Entity Management" widget in your Workspace or log in and search "Entity Information" to locate your UEI.
     - If you are not already registered, you can register for the System for Award Management (SAM) at SAM.gov.
   - Ensure you have an active SAM.gov registration if you plan to submit requests for reimbursement and receive direct reimbursements through the Pilot Program. You must renew your registration on an annual basis to be able to invoice and receive disbursements through the Pilot Program.
   - Verify that you are not currently in redlight status at the FCC or on the U.S. Treasury's do not pay list. If you are, you should continue attempts to resolve these issues, as you will not be eligible to apply for or receive Pilot Program support if these debts or other delinquencies are not resolved.
   - Evaluate and identify your cybersecurity needs.

2. Compile the information required to complete Part One of the FCC Form 484:

   - Entity information.
   - Contact information.
   - Information required to make certifications.
   - Broad description of:
     - Applicant's goals and objectives;
     - How funding will be used;
     - The cybersecurity risks the Pilot project will prevent or address;
     - Basic information regarding the applicant's cybersecurity experience and resources;
     - The cybersecurity services and equipment the applicant plans to request; and
     - Estimate of the total costs of the project.

3. Complete and file the Part One of the FCC Form 484 application:

   - The application filing window is expected to open this Fall. Information regarding the application process, including the dates of the application filing window, will be announced in an FCC Public Notice.
   - Applicants will file their applications with USAC in the Schools and Libraries Cybersecurity Pilot Program online portal.

4. Monitor the FCC website for information regarding selection of Pilot participants and next steps:

   - Selected Pilot participants will be announced in an FCC Public Notice after the FCC Form 484 Part One application filing window closes and reviews have been completed.
   - Announcements will be made regarding the deadlines for Part Two of the FCC Form 484 and the availability and filing periods for the Pilot Program FCC Forms 470 and 471.